

Eddie Sleeper

From: Jim Kress <jimkress35@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2018 10:41 PM
To: Eddie Sleeper
Cc: pjcolbeck@comcast.net
Subject: Testimony for 1/16/2018 House Energy Policy Committee

Since 2013, my wife and I have been continually harassed, intimidated and bullied by DTE in their attempt to impose their will upon us and install "Smart Meters" on our home. They have performed this harassment and bullying in person, by telephone and using the US Mail. We installed a locking system to prevent DTE from unilaterally replacing our perfectly functional Analog Meters with the illegal "Smart Meters". In retaliation, DTE illegally disconnected our power at the distribution box on September 12, 2017. Their claim that they were justified due to "reasons of health and safety". They provided no substantiation for the "health and safety" reasons and when asked, were insulting and rude in their response.

Subsequently, DTE continued their intimidation tactics by sending a fleet of 3 vans and one large truck into our driveway and parking them there. When we came out of the house to find out their purpose, the occupants of the vans and truck fled. We called DTE to complain and were told there was no work order for those DTE vehicles to be at our home. When we complained on social media about DTE's outrageous behavior, DTE continued its intimidation tactics by unleashing the State Police on us.

We have refused to obey DTE diktats regarding "Smart Meters", because we assumed there was a rule of law, freedom of choice, privacy and personal health protection that still applied in Michigan. In-as-much-as our elected representatives, the MPSC and the Attorney General of Michigan have refused to protect us from the predatory and tyrannical behavior of DTE, and violated Michigan law, we were obviously in error. It has been made manifest to us that DTE is the oligarchy in control of Michigan and we are its unwilling serfs.

DTE has continuously lied about the benefits to its supplicants (i.e. "customers") and the lack of any adverse impact on supplicant privacy, health and costs. They have lied about shutoffs and they have lied about the "opt-out" meters that supposedly do not transmit but have been found, in some cases, to be transmitting.

DTE needs to be constrained in its outrageous assault upon its customers. We must be given a choice which includes retention of analog meters, without penalty – direct or indirect.

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